



(19)

Europäisches Patentamt
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(11)

EP 1 048 726 B1

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION

(45) Date of publication and mention
of the grant of the patent:
26.07.2006 Bulletin 2006/30

(51) Int Cl.:

C12N 15/12 (2006.01)

C12N 15/67 (2006.01)

C07K 14/755 (2006.01)

(21) Application number: 00104677.0

(22) Date of filing: 03.03.2000

(54) Modified factor VIII cDNA

Modifizierte Faktor VIII cDNA

ADN modifier du factor VIII

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE

(30) Priority: 17.03.1999 EP 99104050

(43) Date of publication of application:
02.11.2000 Bulletin 2000/44

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WO-A-92/16557

WO-A-94/29471

FR-A- 2 763 959

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Description

[0001] This invention is directed to a modified Factor VIII cDNA and its use for the improvement of the Factor VIII production.

[0002] Factor VIII (FVIII) is a plasma coagulation cofactor implicated in the activation of Factor X (FX). A decrease in the presence or activity of Factor VIII in blood stream leads to hemophilia A. The level of the decrease in Factor VIII activity is directly proportional to the severity of the disease (Foster and T.S., 1989; Kaufman, 1992; Vlot et al., 1998). The current treatment of hemophilia A consists of the replacement of the missing protein by plasma-derived or recombinant FVIII. Recombinant FVIII is produced in CHO or BHK cells after selection of the best producing clones and amplification of the FVIII cDNA copy number.

[0003] Several studies have stressed the low FVIII production level in different cellular systems: Biosynthesis of FVIII was shown to be regulated in at least three different levels. First, among the FVIII cDNA sequence two nucleotides stretches, localized in the A2 coding domain, were demonstrated to act as transcriptional silencers (Fallaux et al, 1996; Hoeben et al., 1995; Koeberl et al., 1995; Lynch et al., 1993). Second, FVIII protein synthesis is tightly regulated by several reticulum endoplasmic chaperones (BiP; Calreticulin; Calnexin; ERGIC-53). Many of these interactions retain FVIII in the cell and direct it through the cellular degradation machinery (Dorner et al., 1987; Nichols et al., 1998; Pipe et al., 1998). Third, once secreted FVIII is sensitive to protease degradation and needs to be protected by von Willebrand Factor (vWF) (Kaufman et al., 1989).

[0004] Document WO 92 16557 describes the expression of biologically active B-domain-depleted recombinant human FVIII in Chinese hamster ovary cells after vector-mediated gene transduction.

Document WO 94 29471 describes an adenoviral vector expressing FVIII or FIX and wherein said vector further includes at least one genomic element. The vector can be used for gene therapy for delivering clotting factors such as FVIII or FIX for the treatment of hemophilia. Nevertheless, the use of this invention is especially difficult with FVIII.

Document Lind et al., 1995 describes the production of recombinant molecules similar to the smallest active plasma-derived FVIII molecule, a complex of an 80 kDa and 90 kDa polypeptide chain lacking the B domain, produced using various FVIII cDNA constructs in order to obtain primary translation products which were efficiently processed into the 80+90 kDa complex. Nevertheless, this FVIII doesn't present particular advantages on FVIII expression yields.

The document Kurachi et al., 1995 describes the positive effect of intron I respectively largely truncated intron I on the factor IX expression. Nevertheless, the insertion of such an intron into FIX does not indicate any usability in FVIII.

The Inventors have already worked on the FVIII expression, as illustrated in the document EP 1 038 959.

[0005] It is therefore a problem to develop improved processes which result in higher yields of FVIII. The present invention offers a solution to this problem by a modified FVIII cDNA.

According to this invention a modified FVIII cDNA is made available in which the B-domain of the wild-type FVIII cDNA has been deleted and a truncated FIX intron 1 has been inserted in one or more locations of the FVIII cDNA.

In addition the B-domain of the wild-type FVIII cDNA has been replaced by four arginines.

These FVIII constructs were prepared as follows:

1. FVIII cloning

[0006] A PCR cloning strategy was designed, based on the synthesis of four PCR fragments, spanning the FVIII cDNA and excepting the B-domain. Based on published data, it was of interest to replace the B-domain by four arginines. Using the MoMuLV reverse transcriptase (Promega, Charbonnières, France) a reverse transcription was done on human cell RNA isolated from a liver biopsy with the written informed consent of the patient. Four PCR fragments were generated using the Expand System (Boehringer-Mannheim, Germany), as described in Table 1.

Fragment	Oligonucleotide sens antisens	SEQ ID No.	Size in bp	5' cloning site	3' cloning site
1	FVIII ATG 3'Bgl II	No.1 No.2	1704	Not I	Bgl II
2	5'Bgl II 4R AS	No.3 No.4	624	Bgl II	Sal I
3	4R S 3'Bgl I	No.5 No.6	1093	Sal I	Bgl I
4	5'Bgl I FVIII stop	No.7 No.8	1026	Bgl I	Xho I

Table I: Summary of FVIII PCR fragments

[0007] All the oligonucleotide sequences used for cloning are shown in Annex 1.

[0008] An additional improvement was performed by optimisation of the ATG environment following the rules of Kozak (Kozak, 1997). For this purpose the oligonucleotide FVIII ATG (SEQ ID No 1) was used.

Comparison of the wild-type FVIII ATG and the Kozak modified FVIII ATG sequences

[0009] WT sequence: TAA GTC ATG CAA ATA

Kozak modified: ACA CCC **ATG** GAA ATA

[0010] The modified amino-acids are represented in bold.

[0011] Four arginines replace according to the invention the B-domain of the FVIII protein. They are introduced by the oligonucleotides used for the cloning of the two fragments surrounding the B-domain (see Fragments 2 and 3 of Table I), namely the oligonucleotides 4R AS (SEQ.ID.No.4) and 4R S (SEQ.ID.No.5). The Sal I site was generated by the coding sequence of the arginines as follows:

SAL I SITE

20
4R S :5'-A AGA CGT CGA CGA GAA ATA ACT CGT ACT ACT CTT
4R AS **TTG** TTA CGG TAA CTT GGT TCT TCT GCA GCT GCT CTT

CORRESPONDING PEPTIDIC SEQUENCE:

[0012] Pro Arg Arg Arg Arg Glu Ile Thr Arg Thr Thr Leu

30 In the wild-type FVIII the peptidic sequence is:

Pro-Arg-Domain B-Arg-Glu

[0013] This indicates that a Sal I restriction site was inserted through the middle of the fourth arginine coding sequence without any sequence alteration. All PCR fragments were cloned in a pCR2 vector using the T/A cloning kit (InVitrogen, the Netherlands). Two clones of each fragment were entirely sequenced. Some mutations were found in a ratio of 1 for 35 800 bases. One mutation was silent but three others modified the coding sequence and the three cDNA pieces bearing the mutations were successively exchanged.

[0014] A subsequent sub-cloning strategy leads to the production of two fragments (each being the sum of two PCR products): a 5' 2.3kb (FVIII ATG) and a 3' 2.1kb (FVIII Stop). The 5' 2.3kb (FVIII ATG) and a 3' 2.1kb (FVIII Stop) were constructed and inserted in the expression vector pCDNA3 (InVitrogen, The Netherlands) opened by Not I and Xho I 40 and treated with alkaline phosphatase. The cloning cassette of pCDNA3 presents a similar restriction sequence as pCR2 and the vector possesses its own resistance gene (neomycin). A B-domain deleted FVIII coding cDNA (hereafter referred to Factor VIII cDNA) was directly obtained in the expression vector. The final FVIII cDNA integrity was checked by extensive restriction analysis.

[0015] Factor VIII cDNA was subcloned in the Bluescript pKS II+vector opened by Not I and Xho I. The use of this 45 vector was more convenient for the introduction of subsequent modifications in Factor VIII cDNA (e.g. introns addition; see hereafter).

2. Truncated FIX intron 1 insertion

50 [0016] According to the invention the FVIII cDNA was further modified by the insertion of a Factor IX truncated intron 1 (FIX T1=SEQ.ID.No.9). The FIX T1 was inserted in different locations of the FVIII cDNA as follows:

- in the FVIII intron 1 location, to use a similar strategy as for FIX (Kurachi et al., 1995)

55 - in the FVIII intron 12 and 13 locations, because a transcriptional silencer sequence was described in this region.

- in the FVIII introns 1+12 and 1+13 locations. Since FVIII cDNA is much larger than FIX (4.4 kb vs 1.4 kb), we hypothesized that it might be of interest to introduce supposedly stabilizing sequences at the locations normally

occupied by introns 12 and 13 in addition to intron 1. Since the location of introns 12 and 13 are grossly in the middle of the FVIII sequence it is possible that they may act synergistically with intron 1.

[0017] The FIXT1I-Sequence (=SEQ-ID No. 9) used according to the invention in different locations of the FVIII cDNA starts after the coding sequence by the splice donor sequence and ends by the splice acceptor sequence of the truncated intron 1. The upper case letters start after and stop before the Nsi I and Mlu I restriction sites, respectively. For details see Annex 2.

[0018] For cloning this fragment in an exogenous sequence, two new FVIII junction fragments were generated, one upstream the FIX T1I with the addition of a Nsi I site and one downstream with the addition of a Mlu I site. The three fragments were subsequently linked together using these sites.

[0019] A similar strategy was used for inserting the three FIXT1I in different locations. In each case three PCR fragments (A, B, C) were generated with the Expand System using Factor VIII cDNA as template for segments A and C, and Factor IX intron 1 for the B fragment. The A fragment extremities comprise Factor VIII sequence on the 5' end, and on the 3' end a fusion between the FVIII 3' splicing sequence and the Factor IX first intron 5' splicing sequence. A Nsi I restriction site was added between these two sequences. The B fragment possesses at the 5' extremity a complementary sequence to the previous fragment, the truncated Factor IX intron 1, and at the 3' end an inserted MluI restriction site. The C fragment was made of the complementary sequence of the 3' extremity from fragment B followed by the Factor IX first intron 3' splicing sequence and by the Factor VIII cDNA downstream coding sequence (see Figure 1).

[0020] The B fragment was the same for all constructs whereas A and C were all different, corresponding to the 5' and 3' FVIII sequences of the intron insertion sites.

[0021] The insertion strategies for intron 12 and 13 positions are indicated in Figure 2.

[0022] Each PCR fragment was generated and first cloned in pCR2 vector using T/A cloning kit (InVitrogen, The Netherlands). They were linked together in two successive steps (pCR2-B+C/MluI+Xhol; pCR2-A+BC/NsiI+XbaI). All ABC (1, 12 and 13) fragments were sequenced and shown to be free of mutations.

Fragment Name	Size in bp
I1-A	204
TFIXI1 (B)	281
I1-C	464
I12-A	234
I12-C	388
I13-A	434
I13-C	180

Table II: Summary of the PCR fragments required for introducing TFIXI1.

[0023] ABC1 was cloned in pKS II+ FVIII after Spe I-Spe I digestion. After checking the orientation, the resulting FVIII I1 cDNA was subcloned in pCDNA3 vector using a Not I-Xho I digestion. ABC12 and ABC13 were digested by Bgl II and Sal I and ligated in pKSII-FVIII digested by the same enzymes. Resulting FVIII I12 and FVIII I13 were subcloned in pCDNA3 using a Not I-Xho I restriction.

[0024] To generate a construct containing two introns, pKS FVIII I1 and the fragments ABC 12 or ABC 13 were digested by Bgl II and Sal I and ligated together. pKSII FVIII I1+12 and FVIII I1+13 were obtained and FVIII cDNAs containing the introns were subcloned in pCDNA3 by the same strategy as previously described.

3. Generation of stably expressing FVIII cell lines

[0025] All pCDNA3-FVIII constructs were transfected in CHO cells by electroporation. Briefly, 7×10^6 washed CHO cells were electroporated in the presence of 10 g of Pvu I linearized construct. The cells were selected 15 hours after electroporation in IMDM (=Iscove's Modified Dulbecco's Medium) supplemented by antibiotics and 10% fetal calf serum containing 0.6 mg/ml G418. For each construct (FVIII; I1; I12; I13; I1+12; I1+13), two pools of clones containing more than 50 individual colonies were grown and frozen. A set of 25 individual colonies were picked up, grown and assessed for Factor VIII expression using an ELISA method (Asserachrom VIIIC.Ag, Diagnostica STAGO, Asnières, France). For all clones, the transfection efficiency was around 40-60% as determined by the number of expressing clones. The five best FVIII producer clones were kept and frozen. The FVIII antigen detected varied dramatically from one construct to

another.

[0026] The activity of the recombinant Factor VIII was measured using the classical one stage clotting assay for each pool and five selected clones. A coagulant activity was found in each supernatant of Factor VIII expressing cells indicating that the construct was coding for a functional protein. The activity was correlated to the amount of protein detected by ELISA. Therefore, it was demonstrated that each construct allowed the production of a functional procoagulant FVIII.

4. Evaluation of the construct efficiency

4.1 Quantitative analysis in CHO cells

[0027] The kinetic of FVIII production was analyzed for each pool of transfected CHO cells. For each pool, independent experiments were made by two different experimenters. At day 0, $4 \cdot 10^5$ cells were seeded in a 6-well plate in 2 ml of fresh medium containing 0.6 mg/ml G418. From day 1 to day 4, the culture supernatant was collected, centrifuged and assayed for FVIII antigen and procoagulant activity. Each day, after medium removal, cells were trypsinized and counted in Trypan Blue. FVIII accumulation is shown in Figure 3. Three constructs allowed a better production than the non-modified FVIII cDNA, i.e. FVIII I1, FVIII I1+12 and particularly FVIII I1+13. FVIII I1 and FVIII I1+12 led to a 2 to 3 times higher production and FVIII I1+13 to 8 to 9 times more. Procoagulant activities were measured from the same supernatants and are presented in Figure 4. They were directly correlated to the amount of antigen detected.

4.2 Quantitative analysis in HepG2 cells

[0028] To confirm the data obtained in CHO cells, a second cellular model was chosen. The constructs exhibiting an improvement in the FVIII expression were tested (e.g. FVIII; FVIII I1, FVIII I1+12; FVIII I1+13) using transiently transfected hepatic cell line HepG2. 2 g of circular DNA were added to 12 l of Fugene 6 transfection reagent (Boehringer Mannheim, Meylan, France). After 15 minutes, the complex was added dropwise on a 90 mm dish seeded with $5 \cdot 10^6$ cells the day before. The transfection mix was incubated for 6h before being replaced by 4 ml of fresh medium. Culture medium was collected 72h later and submitted to coagulation and ELISA assays. As shown in Figure 5, the results obtained using HepG2 cells confirmed the data obtained in CHO cells with the exception of FVIII I1+12 construct which here did not product any detectable FVIII antigen. These data reinforced the potential interest in the FVIII I1+13 construct.

5. Analysis of the expression levels

[0029] Total RNA of each transfected pool A was extracted with the Rneasy mini Kit (Qiagen), $6 \cdot 10^6$ cells being used for each extraction. 10 g of total RNA were migrated at 120V, 4 C in a 0.8% agarose gel in phosphate buffer, transferred overnight on Hybond-N Nylon membrane (Amersham) and baked for 2h at 80 C. A FVIII RNA probe, containing the 1.03 kb Sal I-Bgl I fragment, was generated by T7 polymerase using the RNA DIG labelling kit (Boehringer). The membrane was blocked 30 min by the Dig easy Hyb solution (Boehringer) and incubated in the same fresh solution overnight with 500 ng of labeled antisense probe. Washes were conducted as recommended by the manufacturer and the blot was revealed using the DIG detection Kit (Boehringer) analysed and quantified. FVIII signals were compared to ribosomal 40S and 60S labeled RNA and to GAPDH signal.

[0030] FVIII, FVIII I1 and FVIII I1+12 mRNA amounts were very close to each other. FVIII I1+13 mRNA was expressed in larger amounts. These results indicate a correlation between the amount of mRNA and the protein produced for the constructs (see Figure 6).

[0031] A two time increase in FVIII I1+13 mRNA lead to a 8 to 9 times protein increase. Therefore, the addition of truncated FIX intron I might play a double role in stabilizing FVIII mRNA but also probably in acting during translation.

[0032] The mRNA from FVIII is 4.4 kb long and the differences of 0.3 kb due to a possible non splicing of the TFIIXI1 may not be visible in Northern blot. A RT-PCR set of experiments was done on total RNA extracted from the different cell lines. In each case a band corresponding to a spliced mRNA was obtained indicating the splicing of the TFIIXI1 from FVIII mRNA.

6. Protein characterization

[0033] A sheep anti-FVIII antibody from Cedarlane (Hornby, Canada) was purchased and positively tested in a control immunoblot using recombinant FVIII. This antibody was used in immunoblot on cell supernatant but no signal was obtained due to the low amount of secreted antigen. An immunoprecipitation was done on cell supernatant but here again no signal was obtained indicating the inability of this antibody to immunoprecipitate FVIII. An immunoblot was done on Triton-X100 soluble cell lysates. 90mm dishes were lysed with 300 l ice-cold lysis buffer (Hepes 20mM pH7.5, KC1 100mM, MgCl₂ 2mM, Triton X-100 0.5%). Cells were scrapped and centrifuged at 4 C, 10 min at 14000g. Protein

concentration was measured with the Dc-protein Assay kit (BioRad, Hercules, USA). 175 g of each cell lysates were loaded on 7.5% acrylamide gel and treated following the Laemmli protocol. After semidry transfer (35 min at 400mA), the nitrocellulose membrane was incubated overnight in TBS-T (20mM Tris pH 7.5, NaCl 0.15 M, Tween-20 0.5%). The membrane was then incubated 1h with the anti-FVIII antibody (5 g/ml) in TBS-T. After three washes of 10 min each in TBS-T, the membrane was incubated for 30 min with a rabbit anti-sheep peroxidase coupled antibody (dilution 10⁴ in TBS-T). Extensive washes were conducted before revelation with the ECL system (Amersham).

[0034] Among all the lysates, only the cells transfected with the FVIII I1+13 construct gave a positive signal with a correct approximative molecular weight. The FVIII I1+13 appeared as a single band product migrating at a molecular weight corresponding to the Factor VIII heavy chain devoided of the B-domain.

[0035] In order to confirm the differences observed in intracellular FVIII amounts, an ELISA was done on Triton-X 100 soluble lysates. The presence of Triton X-100 was shown not to influence the FVIII ELISA test. The value of FVIII antigen present inside the cells confirms the data obtained in Western blot.

[0036] FVIII I1+13 led to a 100 times higher synthesis of the antigen than all other constructs (29 ng/ml vs. 0.3 ng/ml for FVIII) (see Figure 7).

[0037] Subject of the invention are, therefore, FVIII-B-domain deleted constructs containing a slightly modified Factor IX truncated intron I in different locations of the cDNA. Among these constructs a cDNA bearing the truncated intron I in both the FVIII Intron 1 and Intron 1³ locations led to a 100 times higher intracellular production than all other constructs and a 9 times higher secretion of the protein. This improved production and secretion was observed in two different cell lines: CHO and HepG2 cells. The FVIII produced was fully active on a one stage clotting assay and appears homogenous on immunoblot. The mRNA amount of all the constructs tested differs no more than three times indicating that the benefit observed in the production is coming both from a transcriptional and a translational effect.

[0038] The present invention indicates that the production of FVIII may be improved by adding introns in the FVIII cDNA. The advantages of such modified FVIII cDNAs for in vitro FVIII production as well as for human gene therapy by inserting such a cDNA in a suitable transvector are important for the future treatment of hemophilia A.

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[0039]

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Annex 1

SEQUENCE LISTING

[0040]

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 ATATTGAAGA 120
 GTCTAACAGC CAGCACGCAG GTTGGTAAGT ACTGTGGGAA
 40 CATCACAGAT TTTGGCTCCA 180
 TGCCCTAAAG AGAAATTGGC TTTCAGATTA TTTGGATTAA AAACAAAGAC
 TTTCTTAAGA 240
 45 GATGTAAAAT TTTCATGATG TTTTCTTTTG TGCTAAAATC AAAGAATTAA
 cgcgtaattct 300
 ttacatttc ag 312
 50

Annex 2

Oligonucleotides used for introducing TFIIXI1 in FVIII sequence

5 [0041] The oligonucleotide sense is always presented the first one.

[0042] Oligonucleotides used for introducing two restriction sites in TFIIXI1:

10 FVIII IB-S: 5'-C AT GCA T CC TTT TTT AAA ATA CAT TGA G
Nsi I site

15 FVIIIB-AS : 5'-A AC GCG T TA ATT CTT TAG TTT TAG CA
Mlu I site

20 [0043] Oligonucleotides used for the generation of FVIII compatible ends to clone in FVIII intron 1 location

-Generation of I1A

25 [0044] FVIII ATG: 5'-ACA CCC ATG GAA ATA GAG CTC TCC ACC TGC

30 FVIII IA-AS: 5'-A AT GCA T (AA ACA AAC) CTT GCG TCC ACA GGC
AGC TC Nsi I site FIX splice donor

35 -Generation of I1B

[0045]

40 FVIII IC-S: 5'-A AC GCG T (AT TCT TTT ACA TTT CAG) ATT TCC TCC
TAG AGT GCC Mlu I site FIX splice donor

45 AAA ATCT

45

FVIII 585-AS: 5'-TTC TCT ACA T AC TAG T AG GGC
endogenous FVIII SpeI site

50

[0046] Oligonucleotides used for the generation of FVIII compatible ends to clone in FVIII intron 12 location

-Generation of I12A

55

[0047] 5' Bgl II : 5'-AAT ATG GAG AGA GAT CTA GCT TCA GG

5 FVIII 12-AS: 5'-A AT GCA T (AA ACA AAC) TGT GCA TGA TGT TGG
AGG CT **Nsi I site** FIX splice donor

-Generation of I12C

10 [0048]

15 FVIII12C-S:5'-A AC GCG T (AT TCT TTT ACA TTT CAG) GCA TCA ATG
GCT ATG TTT **Mlu I site** FIX splice acceptor sequence

20 [0049] 4R AS : 5'-TTC TCG TCG ACG TCT TCT TGG TTC AAT GGC ATT GTT

25 Oligonucleotides used for the generation of FVIII compatible ends to clone in FVIII intron 13 location

-Generation of 113A

25 [0050] 5' Bgl II : 5'-AAT ATG GAG AGA GAT CTA GCT TCA GG

30 FVIII 13A-AS: 5'-A AT GCA T (AA ACA AAC) CTG GGT TTT CCA TCG
ACA TGA A **Nsi I site** FIX splice donor

35 -Generation of I13C

[0051]

40 FVIII13C-S:5'-A AC GCG T (AT TCT TTT ACA TTT CAG) GTC TAT GGA
TTC TGG GGT **Mlu I site** FIX splice acceptor

45 [0052] 4R AS : 5'-TTC TCG TCG ACG TCT TCT TGG TTC AAT GGC ATT GTT

Claims

50 1. Modified Factor VIII cDNA, **characterised in that** the B-domain of the wild type Factor VIII cDNA has been deleted and a truncated Factor IX intron 1, SEQ ID NO : 9, has been inserted in one or more different locations normally occupied by introns of the Factor VIII cDNA.

55 2. Modified Factor VIII cDNA as claimed in claim 1, **characterised in that** the B-domain of the wild-type Factor VIII cDNA is replaced by four arginines.

3. Modified Factor VIII cDNA as claimed in claims 1 and 2, **characterised in that** the truncated Factor IX intron 1), SEQ ID NO : 9, has been inserted at the location normally occupied by introns 1 and/or intron 12 and/or intron 13.

4. Process for the production of Factor VIII, **characterised in that** the production is performed in a cell-line containing a modified Factor VIII cDNA as claims in claims 1 to 3.
5. Transfervector for use in the human gene therapy, **characterised in that** it comprises the modified Factor VIII cDNA of claims 1 to 3.

Patentansprüche

10. 1. Modifizierte Faktor-VIII-cDNA, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die B-Domäne der Wildtyp-Faktor-VIII-cDNA entfernt und ein verkürztes Faktor-IX-Intron 1, SEQ ID NO: 9, an einer oder mehreren verschiedenen Positionen eingefügt wurde, die normalerweise durch Introns der Faktor-VIII-cDNA besetzt sind.
15. 2. Modifizierte Faktor-VIII-cDNA nach Anspruch 1, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** die B-Domäne der Wildtyp-Faktor-VIII-cDNA durch vier Argininreste ersetzt ist.
20. 3. Modifizierte Faktor-VIII-cDNA nach den Ansprüchen 1 und 2, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** das verkürzte Faktor-IX-Intron 1, SEQ ID NO: 9, an der Position eingefügt wurde, die normalerweise durch Intron 1 und/oder Intron 12 und/oder Intron 13 besetzt ist.
25. 4. Verfahren zum Herstellen von Faktor VIII, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** das Herstellen in einer Zelllinie erfolgt, die eine modifizierte Faktor-VIII-cDNA nach den Ansprüchen 1 bis 3 enthält.
5. Transfervektor zur Verwendung in der Gentherapie beim Menschen, **dadurch gekennzeichnet, dass** er die modifizierte Faktor-VIII-cDNA nach den Ansprüchen 1 bis 3 enthält.

Revendications

30. 1. ADNc du facteur VIII modifié, **caractérisé en ce que** le domaine B de l'ADNc du facteur VIII sauvage a été déleté et un intron 1 du facteur IX tronqué de séquence SEQ ID NO :9 a été inséré à une ou plusieurs positions différentes normalement occupées par des introns de l'ADNc du facteur VIII.
35. 2. ADNc du facteur VIII modifié tel que revendiqué dans la revendication 1, **caractérisé en ce que** le domaine B de l'ADNc du facteur VIII sauvage est remplacé par quatre arginines.
40. 3. ADNc du facteur VIII modifié tel que revendiqué dans les revendications 1 et 2, **caractérisé en ce que** l'intron 1 du facteur IX tronqué de séquence SEQ ID NO :9 a été inséré à la position normalement occupée par les introns 1 et/ou intron 12 et/ou intron 13.
45. 4. Procédé pour la production du facteur VIII, **caractérisé en ce que** la production est réalisée dans une lignée cellulaire contenant un ADNc du facteur VIII modifié tel que revendiqué dans les revendications 1 à 3.
5. Vecteur de transfert pour l'utilisation en thérapie génique humaine, **caractérisé en ce qu'il comprend** l'ADNc du facteur VIII modifié des revendications 1 à 3.

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Schematic view of FIX intron 1 inserted in FVIII intron1 location

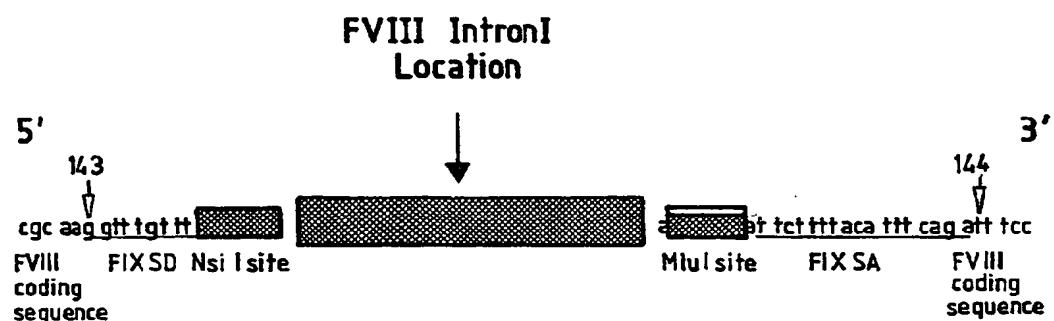
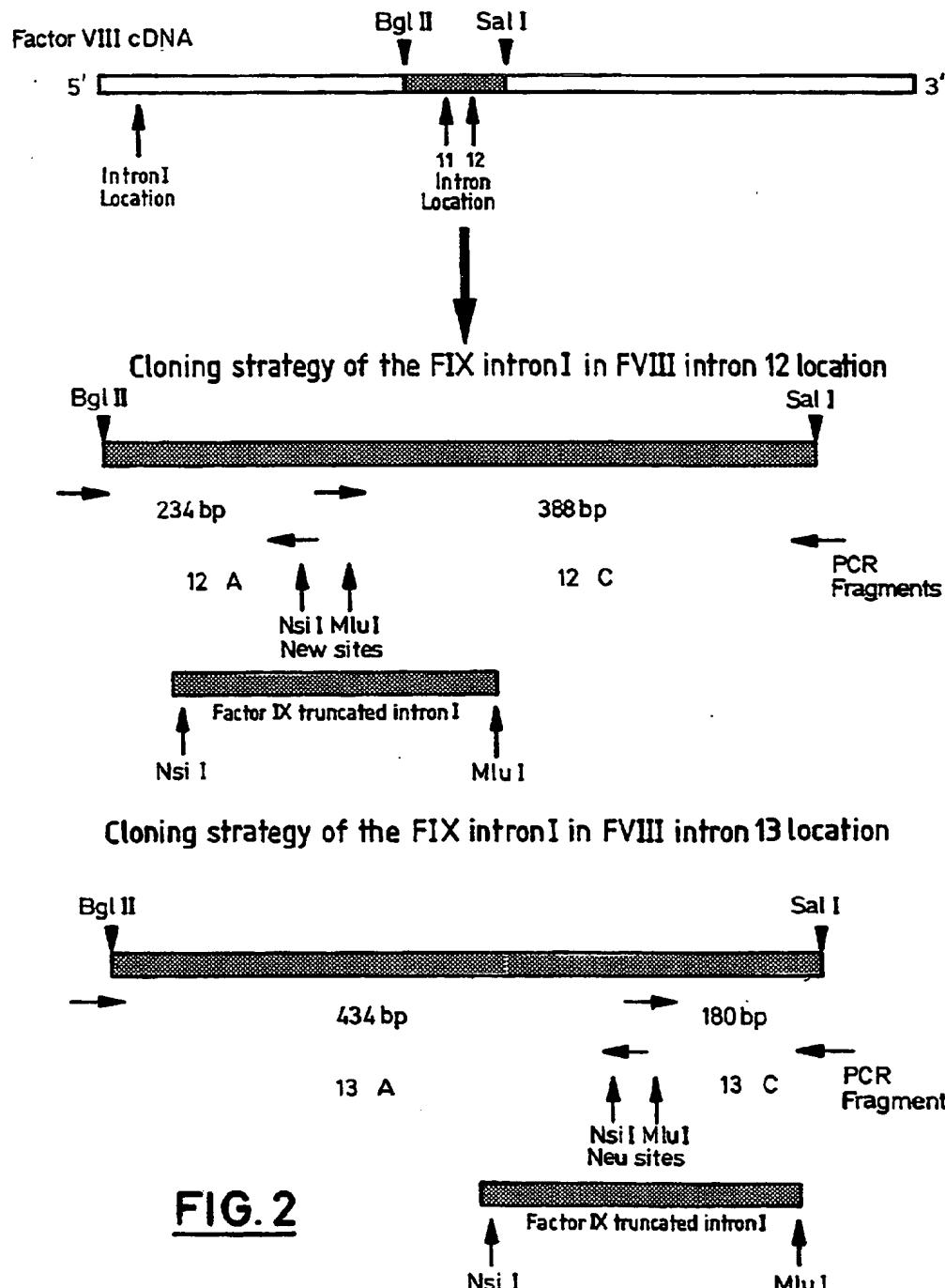
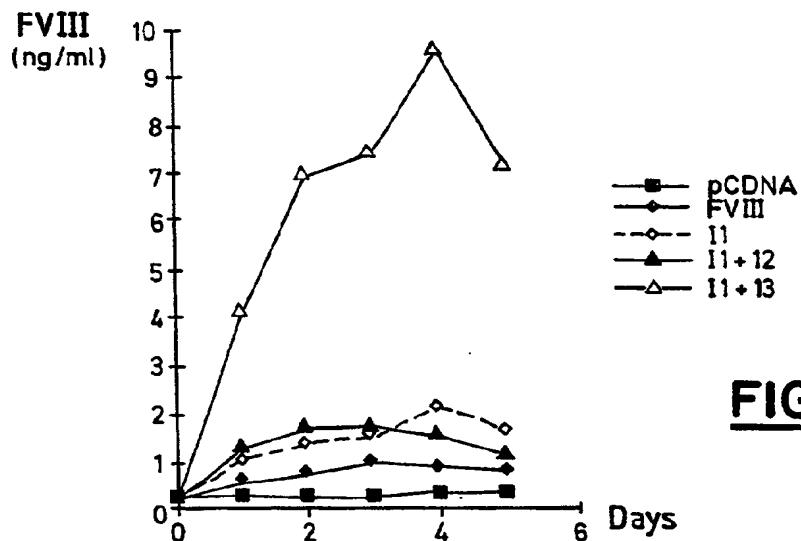
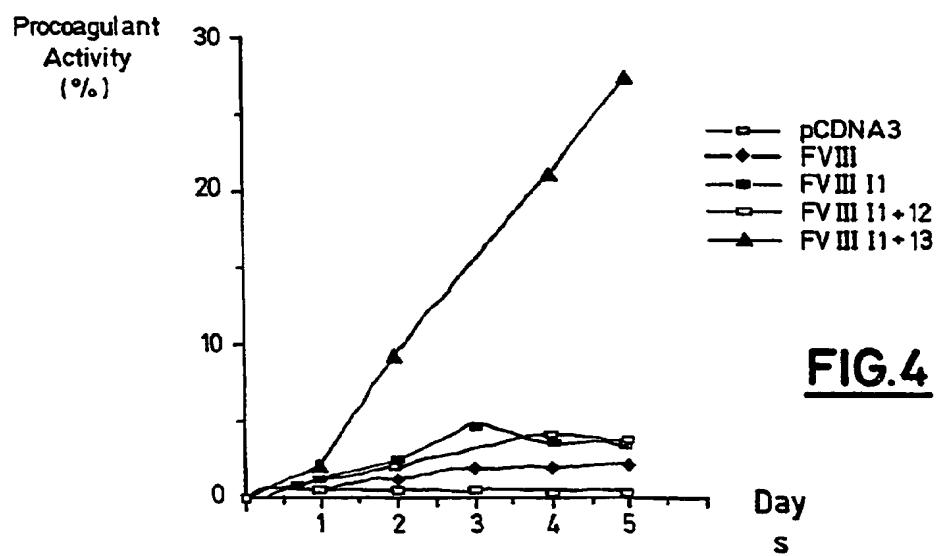


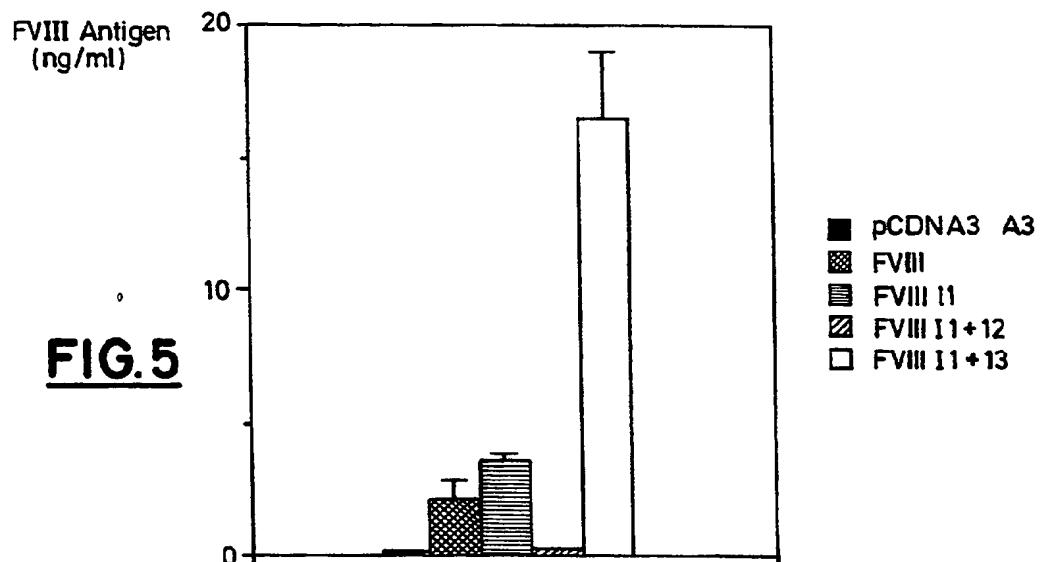
FIG.1

Cloning strategy of Factor IX intron1 in intron 12 and 13 locations

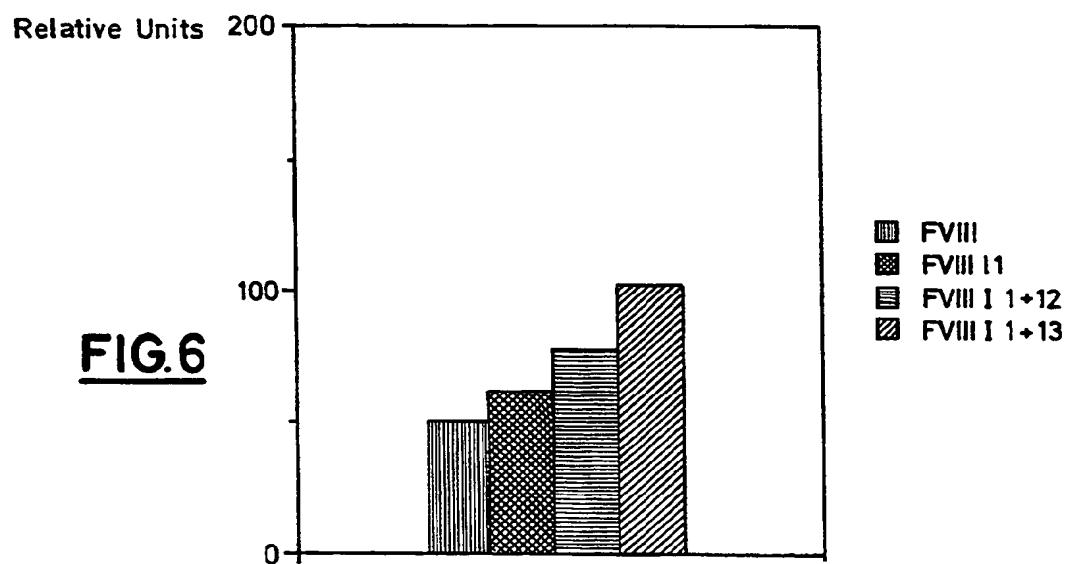
**FIG. 2**

Kinetic of FVIII production from different transfected cell lines**FIG. 3**Procoagulant activities from different transfected cell supernatants**FIG. 4**

FVIII antigen production in Hep G2 cell line
(average of at least three experiments)



Quantitative analysis of FVIII mRNA in transfected CHO
(average of at least four different analyses)



Intracellular amount of FVIII in different cell lines

